

MINUTES
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission Conference Call
Helena Headquarters
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
October 16, 2002

Commission Members Present: Dan Walker, Chairman; Tim Mulligan, Vice Chairman; Darlyne Dascher, John Lane and Mike Murphy

Fish, Wildlife & Parks Staff: Jeff Hagener, Director; Don Childress, Wildlife Division Administrator; Jim Kropp, Law Enforcement Division Administrator

Guests: None. Members of the press had not requested being included for the call and were not present.

Topics of Discussion:

1. Decker Flats Closure to Special Youth Hunting – Final

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order at 8:00a.m.

1. Decker Flats Closure to Special Youth Hunting – Final. Don Childress, Wildlife Division Administrator presented information on the proposed final rule. The tentative rule for closure of Decker Flats to Special Youth Hunting was published in news releases and on local Bozeman radio stations. Public comment was requested and accepted until October 4, 2002. No comments were received.

Hunting District 313 is open for Special Youth Hunting. This regulation closes that portion of the district known as Decker Flats. The area also has an emergency 24-hour closure provision because of past history of a firing line associated with Yellowstone National Park. The area is posted. The exclusion of the Decker Flats for the Special Youth Hunt will eliminate the potential for an unsatisfactory hunting experience associated with the firing line.

ACTION: *Vice-Chairman Mulligan moved to accept the Department's recommendation to finalize the rule to exclude the Decker Flats in HD313 from the Special Youth Hunt. Motion seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Motion passed unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:10a.m.

Dan Walker, Chairman

M. Jeff Hagener, Director

